the latest ISSUE

volume two
issue eight

mid-december
ninety

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

SACRAMENTO'S NEWS MAGAZINE FOR THE GAY COMMUNITY AND ITS FRIENDS

Madonna Speaks Out on Sexuality

Justifying Her Video

by **Sara E. Myers**

Everyone's talking about Madonna's new video: people who hate it, people looking for social statements in it, even people who haven't seen it.

The "Justify My Love" video was first brought to the attention of American consumers when MTV executives announced their refusal to air the video due to its explicit sexual content -- including sadomasochism, voyeurism, and homosexuality -- which they considered inappropriate for their audience.

Of course, the ban created an immediate, overwhelming demand for the video. Even people who neither subscribe to MTV nor have more than a passing interest in music videos were suddenly driven to see the one that was *too nasty for MTV*.

So it was with great interest and an anticipatory grin that I poured myself a drink and settled down in front of my VCR. Whir, click...Madonna appears on the screen walking purposefully down the hall of a cheap hotel. Vaguely nasty things are happening in the open-doored rooms. A man humps a woman from behind. A person of unknown gender is strapped to a rack. Whoa, Madonna is getting excited, she may not make it to her room. Whew! Her boyfriend shows up in time to rescue her from a day of solo play and to escort her away.

The remainder of the "Justify My Love" video portrays Madonna and her boyfriend simulating lovemaking, she in lingerie, he in pants and many crucifixes but no shirt. The scene is cut with images of other people, all androgynous

continued on back page

New Gay Rights Bill Introduced

by **Keith Clark**

On Tuesday, December 4, Assemblyman Terry Friedman (D-Sherman Oaks) introduced AB101 to the California Legislature.

The bill will bar discrimination against lesbians and gay men in the state - if it is passed into law.

Friedman said, "I think there remains a substantial need for laws protecting gays and lesbians from discrimination. We're preparing to write a bill that will securely protect them from discrimination in employment, housing and access to services."

Friedman made his comments following a day-long hearing in West Hollywood called by the Assembly's Ways and Means health and human services committee Nov. 15.

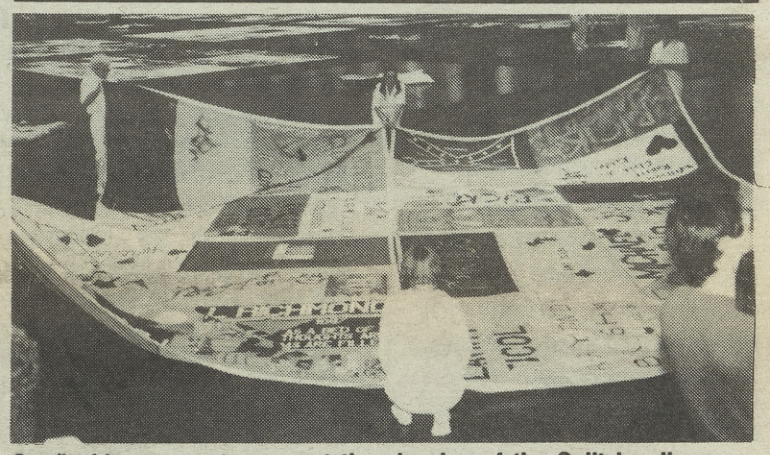
Friedman's legislation was immediately criticized by Lou Sheldon of the Anaheim-based Traditional Values Coalition. "We do not believe in special recognition and rights for deviant sexual behavior," Sheldon said, calling it "a vehicle to advocate and promote homosexuality."

> "...a vehicle to advocate and promote homosexuality."

Gov. George Deukmejian vetoed a similar bill in 1984, AB1, which he felt was unnecessary because existing law provided adequate protection against such discrimination.

But Friedman said testimony at the subcommittee hearings demonstrated for him that state law did not now provide sufficient protections. During the hearings, Friedman said, a variety of trained professionals testified that they had been "fired, demoted or harassed at work once their employer learned of their private sexual orientation."

"An individual's private conduct should not affect their job, housing or ability to access services," he said.



Gay/lesbians gave to support the showing of the Quilt locally.

Gays/Lesbians Giving to People With AIDS

by **Arturo Jackson III**

Thousands of dollars were raised in 1990 by by the Sacramento gay/lesbian community to help people with HIV/AIDS.

The charitable contributions were garnered as an act of love by our community which is committed to alleviating the suffering wrought by the AIDS epidemic. Gay men and women sharing in a commitment to help others learn to cope, while we are grappled with the realities of life in the 90's.

The Sacramento AIDS Foundation was the largest beneficiary of funds raised this year. Private donations from a multitude of sources totalled approximately $170,000. According to Patty Blomberg, SAF's Deputy Director, "the Sacramento AIDS Foundation is grateful for the money the Sacramento community has raised. However, the final amount is a drop in the bucket when compared to the amount of government funding we recently lost."

Last September, the Sacramento AIDS Foundation lost over $800,000 from various funding sources. The cutbacks forced the organization to revamp its available services.

SAF currently provides services to only individuals with an AIDS-related condition or an AIDS diagnosis. Services are no longer available to those who have tested HIV

continued on page 8

really !!! I MUST SAY!

Effort Serves with Sensitivity

Dear Friends,

The Effort, Inc. (formerly The Aquarian Effort) provides a variety of quality counseling services for drug/alcohol abuse problems for members of the Sacramento County area. We are a low-cost counseling center that is sensitive to the needs of the gay and lesbian community without prejudice or discrimination.

The Effort, Inc. is a non-profit organization. Fees are based on a sliding scale. We are located at 1820 J Street and open Monday through Thursday 9:00 to 8:00 and Friday 9:00 to 6:00. Free orientation is offered each Friday at 10:00 A.M. Call 444-6294 for more information.

LETTERS!

The latest ISSUE welcomes letters on any subject. Be sure to include your name and phone number for verification. We will not print your name if you wish to remain anonymous.

Gay Looking, Acting and Just Plain Gay

Editor,

This letter is directed to your readers, especially male readers. It concerns personal ads placed the Gay and Non-Gay publications.

I, for one, am really starting to get a little nauseated when I see ads stating such descriptions as:

1. **Very Straight Acting.** In other words, it's just an act? What is straight acting and why do people do it? Many stereotype straight acting traits are not something I would want to advertise. Expound on this please!
2. **Gay Scene.** Most of these ads that mention the Gay Scene are mentioning it because they are NOT into it. Please excuse my ignorance, but I haven't a clue to what the Gay Scene is and how do I go about getting into this club? You certainly can't call the bars the Gay Scene so I am assuming this is something I've missed event though I have been out of the closet for 13 years.
3. Now we're back to the word **Straight.** It seems a lot of people advertising the fact they are looking for someone to date or whatever are STRAIGHT LOOKING! Does this mean they wear a lot of polyester and stupid sports caps on their heads? Seems to me that there are so many heterosexuals out there now that have taken our Gay trendiness to the point you can't designate a persons sexuality by just looking at them, if you ever could. Again, have I missed something?

Andrew Swanson

ACT UP Says; "Lets Work Together"

The following letter was sent to Mary Smith at the Patlar with a copy sent to the Editor of the latest ISSUE:

Dear Mary Smith,

This letter is in response to your recent article in the Patlar (Nov. 1990).

First, we would like to thank you for acknowledging our accomplishments. As ACT UP members we are proud to stand behind our actions. Forcing the general public to think about AIDS during the Rose Parade, holding Louis Sullivan accountable at the 6th International AIDS Conference and stopping the Rev. Louis Sheldon from preaching AIDSphobic and homophobic rhetoric got ACT UP and AIDS a lot of media attention, which helps us to educate people about the AIDS crisis.

And crisis is just what it is. You say that "the rest of us don't feel that same sense of urgency." In this country alone 90,000 people are dead from AIDS and another 6 million are HIV+. And you don't feel a sense of urgency? SHAME ON YOU! What will it take? Do another 90,000 people have to die before you will feel that the situation demands urgent action? Will you have to become infected, before this issue relates to you?

As a writer for the lesbian and gay community, haven't you realized that AIDS is the pandemic that it is, because those first infected were gay? When you write about redirecting ACT UP's commitment and energy "into every other gay organization in America," are you suggesting that AIDS does not deserve that commitment and energy from your community? We think it does!

Our mission is not one of self-interest, but rather to end the AIDS crisis. We're not a show -- we're fighting for our lives. We demand funding, research and sex-positive education in a culturally sensitive environment. Until none of us has AIDS, we all have AIDS. So, let's get past the negativity and separatism and work together, because it is compassion and support that will give us all a true sense of community.

Everyone is welcome to attend our weekly meetings. They are held each Sunday evening at 7:00. Please call the hotline for address and current activities: 552-1996.

Sincerely,
Connie Garver
Jac Bertha O'Casey
ACT UP

Gay Rodeo Humane to Animals?

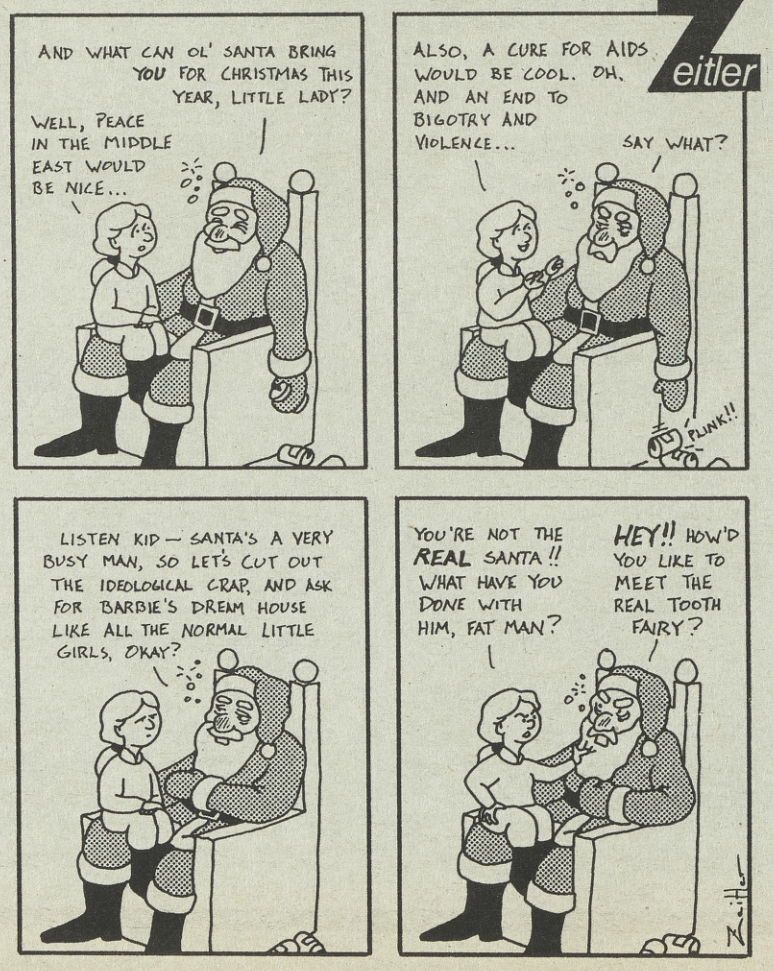
Editor,

This is in response to a letter in your mid-November 1990 issue, from Randy L. Jacobs, president, G.S.G.R.A.-B.A.C., which urged gays interested in rodeo to contact him.

I would like to know if Mr. Jacobs' organization practices humanity toward the rodeo animals. Most rodeo events do not have the animals' comfort or safety in mind. For example, those "bucking broncos" are bucking only because a cinch has been painfully strapped around their genital area.

We of the gay community take pride in our compassion and sensitivity toward others. Often, we have ourselves been subjected to pain of one kind or another. Let's extend that compassion and sensitivity of ours to animals who might suffer for something as frivolous as entertainment.

Sincerely,
Lynn Vigneault


Zeitler
AND WHAT CAN OL' SANTA BRING YOU FOR CHRISTMAS THIS YEAR, LITTLE LADY?
WELL, PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST WOULD BE NICE...
ALSO, A CURE FOR AIDS WOULD BE COOL. OH, AND AN END TO BIGOTRY AND VIOLENCE...
SAY WHAT?
PLINK!!
LISTEN KID — SANTA'S A VERY BUSY MAN, SO LET'S CUT OUT THE IDEOLOGICAL CRAP, AND ASK FOR BARBIE'S DREAM HOUSE LIKE ALL THE NORMAL LITTLE GIRLS, OKAY?
YOU'RE NOT THE REAL SANTA!! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE WITH HIM, FAT MAN?
HEY!! HOW'D YOU LIKE TO MEET THE REAL TOOTH FAIRY?

DEADLINES

The editorial deadline for our next issue is January 1st. Camera-ready advertising materials are due by January 5th.

the latest ISSUE staff

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the latest issues

AROUND TOWN

Mike Thompson Thanks Sacramento Supporters

by **Brenda Robinson**

In a democracy where incumbents win elections 96 percent of the time, and truly competitive races for elected office are about as rare as tastefully-dressed drag queens, freshman Senator Mike Thompson, D-Rohnert Park, provided that in some races, the people of this state still rule.

On November 6, Thompson, who sought and received lesbian and gay support both inside and outside of his district, beat out three-term incumbent Republican Jim Nielsen by 2,728 votes, or about 1 percent of the votes cast in that race.

Although the campaign was tough, securing gay support was not. "My opponent was instrumental in lining it up. He was clearly no friend of the gay community," said Thompson of opponent Nielson, who publicly proclaimed that AIDS is a "divine retribution of the permissive lifestyle of the gay community."

Just how instrumental was gay political support in Thompson's narrow victory? "It's hard to say how many [gay volunteers there were], because contrary to what my opponent believes, they don't look different; they don't wear a brand or a scarlet letter," Thompson said.

"I don't know how you can quantity how much something helps or hurts a campaign. I think it was a combination of things -- the thousands of people supporting me, the people who walked precincts, who phone banked, the people who made contributions. I want to thank those of you readers who came out and supported me."

Thompson said he was proud to receive the official endorsement of the Sonoma County Gay and Lesbian Democratic Club, which he listed among his other endorsements in his campaign literature.

Thompson also received support from the two major Sacramento area gay political organizations, the River City Democratic Club and CAP/-PAC, as well as the San Francisco-based Alliance.

In addition to official endorsements and contributions, several cars full of gay Democratic Senate staffers, who had been asked to work on Senator Ruben Ayala's campaign, chose to walk precincts and phone bank for Thompson instead.

> "...contrary to what my opponent believes, they don't look different; they don't wear a brand or a scarlet letter"

Ayala was instrumental in having the gay flag taken down from the Capitol's flag staff on National Coming Out Day.

Thompson's gay support became an issue in the campaign. Nielson's television commercial stated, "My opponent is supported by gay and lesbian activities because he favors gay rights. Jim Nielson opposed the homosexual bill of rights. Senator Jim Nielson represents us."

"That sort of ticked me off," says Stan Hadden, who works for Senator David Roberti and volunteered for Thompson's campaign. "[Thompson] has really been a friend of a gay community."

Now that Thompson holds the 4th Senatorial district, what can the gay community expect in return for its political support?

"I don't identify the gay community as an island or rock. It's part of the district. Its concerns and interests are as important as those of any other interest group," he said.

"I'm going to be open and accessible to everyone. I'm going to be the reasoned voice, and the reasonable voice in the house. I'm going to fight for a person's individual rights and civil liberties."

Regarding his qualifications for office, Thompson says he has a well-rounded background in both the private and public sectors. Before entering politics, Thompson was a tractor mechanic by trade, worked for Beringer Vineyards, and taught.

"[My working in the private sector] gives me a clear understanding of what working people face on a day-today basis," he said.

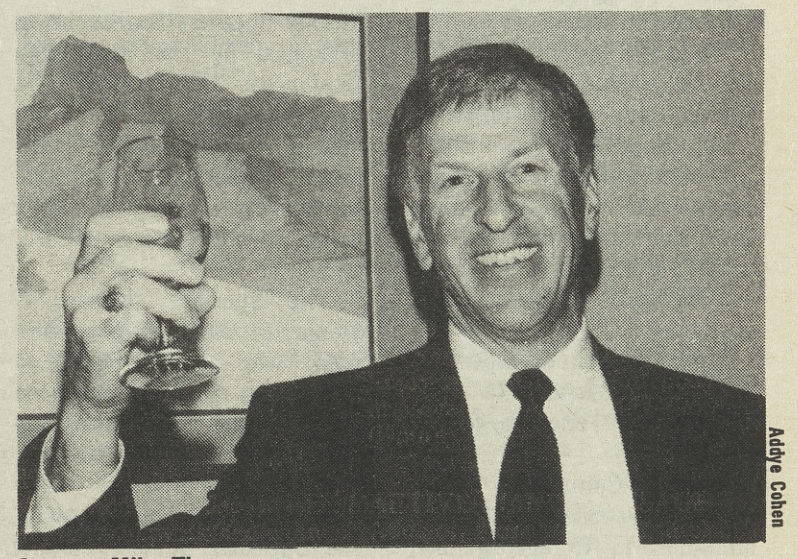
At Beringer Vineyards, Thompson served as the liaison between management and the mostly Hispanic work force, where he experienced first-hand racist attitudes. He tells a story of an Hispanic man who sought repairs on his vehicle. The repair ultimately required little labor and a part costing less than a dollar. But before the problem was correctly identified and repaired, another mechanic had already charged the man some $600.

When Thompson confronted the first mechanic, he replied, "Hey, what's the problem" "The guy's just a Mexican."

This was one experience that motivated Thompson to go into politics, and to advocate for civil rights.

In 1982, he enrolled in the Assembly Fellowship Program, a one-year paid internship program for college graduates. He subsequently served as chief-of-staff for Assemblyman Lou Papan, and later for Assemblywoman Jackie Speier, before running for office himself.

"It was human rights stuff and civil liberties stuff that got me involved in this," he says. And that is what will make him a good advocate, not only for the gay community, but for all of his constituents.



Addye Cohen

Senator Mike Thompson.

Recovery "Round-Up"

Nearly 300 clean, sober and recovering lesbians and gay men gathered at the Holiday Inn Holidome November 24 and 25 for the 3rd Annual "River City Round-up."

This years event was held on Thanksgiving weekend and before the end of this two day conference, a group conscience was taken and overwhelmingly this holiday weekend was voted in for next years "Round-up".

There were a number of workshops to attend that focused on the continuing issues for men and women who are recovering from addiction, as well as on going AA meetings through-out the event. Hundreds of balloons surrounded the conventioneers during a dance one evening of the conference. People appeared to leave with anticipation to return in greater numbers at next years conference.

Gay/lesbian AA meetings are held 7 days a week at "North Hall" at the Metropolitan Community Church, 2741 34th Street at 8 p.m. and at Clunie Club House, 601 Alhambra Blvd., Tuesdays (8 p.m.) and Sundays (11 a.m.). Call 451-1100 for other meetings.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS from the staff of the latest ISSUE

NEWSBITS-NEWSBITS-NEWSBITS-NEWSBITS-NEWSBITS

Lambda Board Positions Open

The Lambda Community Fund is currently accepting applications for Board members.

Persons applying should have experience or expertise in one or more of the following areas; fundraising, law, financial, administration, volunteerism/activism. Applicants must also have an interest in the Lambda Community Fund and its programs. This is a working board.

Applicants from all aspects of the greater Sacramento community are encouraged to apply.

Lambda Community Fund welcomes applicants without limitation as to age, gender, race, disabled persons. To apply, call Shannon Lindauer at LCC 442-0185.

Speakers Bureau Recruiting

Women and men interested in being a part of the community Speakers Bureau being organized by the River City Democratic Club and the Lambda Community Fund are invited to join current members at a meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 15, 1991 at the Lambda Center, 1931 L Street.

The Speakers Bureau, is comprised of 24 women and men who have completed training to make presentations both within the lesbian/gay community and the non-gay community.

For more information about the Speakers Bureau, contact Covino at 371-3848 or Ludwick at 429-2806.

GLAAD Wants You

Yes, you too can join the fight to combat offensive images of lesbian and gays in the media. Your contribution may be as simple as making a phone call or as conspicuous as a meeting with a media representative. The Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) strives for fair and accurate portrayal of our community in the print and electronic media.

The Sacramento Chapter of GLAAD, the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, is reorganizing and needs women and men to work with Sacramento's more than 30 radio stations, seven TV stations and multitude of newspapers to promote accurate expressions of lesbians and gays.

An organizational meeting is set for 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 10, 1991 at The Commons, 17th and P streets to discuss goal setting and membership building. For more information about how you can become involved in GLAAD, contact Judy Ludwick at 429-2806 or Bill Heffner at 451-0919.

Ms. Leather Coming Soon

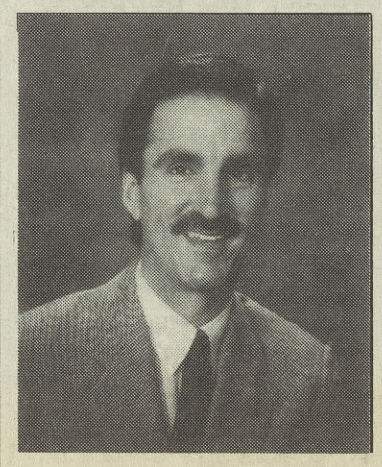
Women interested in running for Ms. Leather Sacramento 1991 need to get applications filled out and returned by February 6. The entry fee is $10.00.

The contest will be held February 9, 1990 at Joseph's Town and Country, 2062 Auburn Blvd., at 8 p.m.

To recieve an application send a self-addressed stamped envelope to 3624 Folsom Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95816-6617 or call 456-1610 for more information.

VITALS

Daryl L. Goldstucker



Born in Lubbock, Texas, on May 21, 1954. Graduated from the University of Texas Austin, with a B.S. in Advertising (1975). Daryl was employed with American Airlines for 13 years, the last 5 as an Area Sales Manager, in Sacramento

Daryl leaves his partner in life, Glen Taber of Oakland, California; mother Ernestine Goldstucker of Lubbock, Texas; brother Mark Goldstucker of Dallas, Texas; sister Donna Mosk of Houston, Texas; and four nieces and nephews.

Daryl possessed a unique spirituality. He was a deep thinker, gifted conversationalist, and prodigious writer.

We say good-bye to this dear, sweet soul with an adaptation of his own words: Tears of sadness for missing Daryl, but smiles and joy for all of the fond memories. May each of us grow and make the most of our lives. Rest peacefully, Daryl, and ascend to your highest good.

Denis Rondeau

Denis Rondeau passed away November 9, 1990, at Kaiser South in Sacramento. A talented artisan, Denis ran Rondeau Upholstering and Interior Design. He will be remembered for his special ability to identify diamonds-in-the-rough "objets d'arte" and miraculously transform them with creative make-overs. Denis is survived by family and friends both in Sacramento and the greater Boston area. Services are private with interment at the family plot in the Boston area. Only 31 years old, Denis was another taken from us by AIDS-related complications, despite intensive medical support.

For placement of your vital information, send all necessary information to:

the latest ISSUE
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JoAnn Loulan!!
Back by popular demand,
to discuss her new work,
"The Lesbian Erotic Dance"

DATE: Friday, January 18, 1991
TIME: 6:30 p.m. registration
8 p.m. program - book signing
PLACE: Holiday Inn Northeast
Madison & I-80
TIXS: Pre-registered members
$15.00
Students, Seniors,
Disabled & Limited Income
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FOR TICKETS AND INFO: Call Linda 486-8985
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getting OUTTA TOWN

We March in '92?

by **Keith Clark**

A handful of activists around the country have begun preliminary discussions about the feasibility of another National March for Lesbian/Gay Rights on Washington DC in 1992.

The proposed March would coincide with the fifth anniversary of the 1987 event that drew an estimated half-million people in the largest single gathering of lesbian/gay rights activists in the world. For the new national march, if it comes off, activists say they think they can draw one million people to the capital. The first National March, a much more modest event, took place in October 1979.

Drew Siegel, a gay activist who works with such diverse groups as Mobilization Against AIDS and PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays), began raising the prospects of a 1992 national march recently and has sent out feelers on the issue to both groups he's involved with as well as Urvashi Vaid of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) and Tim McFeeley of the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF).

So far, Siegel says all the discussions have been prelim-

continued on page 20

Chico Checks in Alive & Well

by **David Welton**

Six gay and lesbian community activists founded the Stonewall Alliance of Chico in April of this year.

Now, an organized and cohesive gay and lesbian community is emerging in Chico.

"We want to be something of a catalyst in terms of getting communication, discussion and education going to serve the needs of Chico and Butte County," explains President Eric Ruben. Ruben states that the establishment of a lesbian, gay and bisexual community center in Chico is the organization's primary goal.

Other gay and lesbian groups are thriving in Chico. Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays has served the community for 12 years. Harlan Adams, founder of the Chico chapter, describes a mailing list of 350 and meetings that attract 70 people.

The Girlz Club offers productions to women of Chico. Musicians and comediennes are some of the entertainment the organization promotes. The Club and the Stonewall Alliance co-produced a "Fall Celebration Dance."

Timothy Evers, Czar of the Province of Chico CGNIE, oversees the donation of proceeds from fundraisers to local charitable organizations.

Recently, KZFR (90.1 FM), an innovative community radio station, began producing a biweekly lesbian music program.

Gay and lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous, Al-Anon and Narcotics Anonymous groups meet weekly. A "35+ Fellowship group" for gay men and a support group for "Lesbians in Long-Term Relationships" have also been formed.

Recent events on the CSU Chico campus have addressed gay and lesbian issues. The Faculty Senate urged President Robin Wilson to "eliminate university credit for ROTC courses [and] withdraw faculty status from ROTC instructors . . . if the Department of Defense's policy of discrimination based on sexual orientation is not rescinded by January 1, 1992."

The CSU Chico Counseling Center has formed a gay, lesbian and bisexual discussion and support group and a proposal was written to assess the needs of gay, lesbian and bisexual students on campus.

For more information, contact the Stonewall Alliance of Chico at P.O. Box 8855, Chico, CA 95927.

Our low advertising rates and high circulation will bring you satisfaction, too.
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City's Daily Newspaper

Prints Same-sex "Celebrations"

by **Keith Clark**

EVERETT, Wash. -- The Everett Herald, the leading daily in this town of 54,000 people some 15 miles north of Seattle, made newspaper history last month when it became the first mainstream daily to begin publishing domestic partners notices.

Editors changed a regular weekly feature page that had previously been devoted exclusively to opposite-sex couples' wedding and engagement announcements to a weekly "Celebrations" section that now also carries domestic partners announcements, holy unions and similar couples social notes.

Everett Herald managing editor, Stan Strick, told the latest ISSUE, "What we simply did is what we think newspapers should do, which is respond to requests from the community. We had one lesbian couple who asked us for an announcement. It came in in the normal form of announcement, and we had no good reason not to approve it ... This is not a community where you would expect this sort of thing to happen, but as far as we're concerned, we just handled it as a matter of course."

Seattle voters recently rejected a repeal move led by conservatives and fundamentalists against the city's domestic partners ordinance, although the town of Everett itself has no such law.

The Everett Herald is owned by the Washington Post which has no similar section. A spokesperson for the Post, however, told reporters the only reason the Post had not run comparable same-sex announcements was simply "because no one had ever asked them to." Last year before an earlier domestic partners ordinance in San Francisco was repealed at the polls, editors at the San Francisco Examiner also said they would publish domestic partners notices along with their wedding announcements when the law went into effect. The Examiner has, however, in the meantime discontinued running wedding announcements altogether and currently has no plans to resume them.

Strick said the paper has received a good deal of negative reaction "primarily from people who have a moral belief that opposes homosexuality," but said that "can't influence what we do." "Newspapers have a lot of rights under the First Amendment," Strick said. "And to me that imposes certain responsibilities, and one of those is open access to our pages by a diversity of groups. We were responding in that light."

Rink Foto

Queer Nation stages "kiss-ins" to increase gay visibility.

Public Kissin'

by **Keith Clark**

Staging a kiss-in and singing unconventional carols, the newly formed Santa Cruz chapter of Queer Nation dropped in on the Capitola Mall on Friday, Nov. 23.

They brought with them a message of lesbian/gay visibility to shoppers in this coastal town of some 10,000 people, on the busiest shopping day of the year.

Some 75 members of Queer Nation descended on the usually placid shopping center to put on a brief demonstration followed by some not-so-old-fashioned Christmas caroling at the mall's fountain. "Deck the malls with queens by golly, fa-la-la-la-la, fa-la-la--la-la," the raucous demonstrators sang, drowning out the mall's regular piped-in Christmas songs.

Hundreds of stunned shoppers gawked at the extraordinary event as the men and women of Queer Nation then paired off, jumped into the fountain and began illustrating "queer visibility" with some passionate kissing.

While most of the regular shoppers simply looked on in disbelief, some were incensed over the demonstrators' behavior. One married couple, Eric and Leslie Weitzer, became so enraged they jumped on a bench and began their own kiss-in to show some "straight visibility" at the mall.

Weitzer complained of the Queer Nation demonstration, "You don't see straight people coming to the mall and doing this."

A Queer Nation/Santa Cruz spokesperson said, "Constant queer visibility will be a potent force to challenge homophobia."

Mall security guards and Capitola police, alerted to the demonstration in advance, merely stood by and explained to angry shoppers that the demonstrators had a constitutional right to do what they were doing.

"We don't have any problems as long as they keep their clothes on," said Don Braunton, chief of the Capitola police department.

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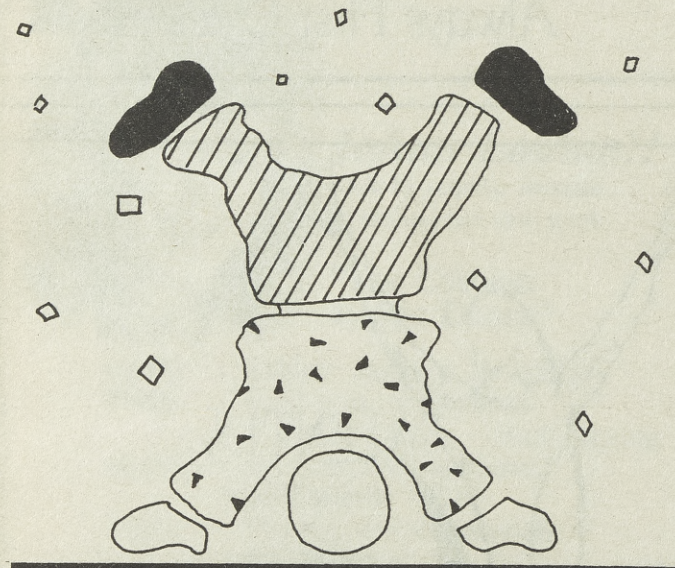

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the latest NEWS BITS

Bishops Release Info on Sexuality

In early November the U.S. Catholic bishops declared that homosexuality "is not freely chosen" and therefore, "is not sinful," however the church still disapproved of "physical expression of homosexuality."

In a 100-page statement on sexuality entitled "Human Sexuality -- A Catholic Perspective for Education and Lifelong Learning," the bishops put forth the church's viewpoints on sex. The church still remains firm on birth control, sex outside marriage and the "genital expression" of homosexuality.

The Sentinel

Gay Immigration Law Repealed

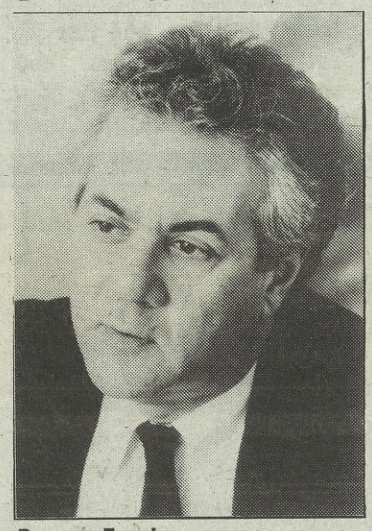
In the final frantic days and nights of the 101st Congress, Gay and AIDS lobbyists pulled out a stunning coup -- repealing the 26-year-old ban against Gay immigrants and mandating the creation of a new list of communicable diseases which can be used to stop a person's entry into the country. The latter move is expected to ensure that HIV infected people can no longer be prohibited from visiting or immigrating to the U.S.

Both repeal efforts were part of a larger immigration reform bill known as the Family Unity and Employment Opportunity Immigration Act. The Senate passed the final version of the legislation on Friday, followed by the House on Saturday. The vote in the Senate was 89 to 8; in the House, 264 to 118.

The Washington Blade

Barney Frank O.K. After Heart Attack

A mild heart attack November 17 in Boston prevented Rep. Barney Frank from returning to Washington, D.C. three days later to announce a lawsuit aimed at preventing "offensive military action" in the Persian Gulf without Congressional approval.



Barney Frank.

The Massachusetts Democrat, who on November 6 easily won re-election to a sixth term despite a reprimand from his peers for employing a male prostitute, was listed in stable condition after release from Beth Israel Hospital's intensive care unit.

Frank fell ill after a normal exercise workout at a gay gym in Boston and took a taxi to the emergency room, according to his lover Herb Moses. Doctors tried a new medicine for heart attack patients before performing an angioplasty, use of a tiny balloon to open a clogged blood vessel.

"He's in pretty good spirits," Moses said late last week. "He's sufficiently grouchy that I figure he's feeling pretty good."

The Sentinel

City of Denver Passes Gay Rights Ordinance

The Denver City Council has passed a civil rights ordinance which protects lesbians and gays from discrimination in housing, employment, health services, and public accommodations. According to Gay Community News, Tea Schook, one of the ordinance's authors, set about to add sexual orientation to Denver's human rights ordinance but then found that Denver had no human rights ordinance at all. The new ordinance included sexual orientation, military status, marital status, race, gender, age, and mental or physical disabilities.

Southern Voice

Gay History Now in Smithsonian

The Smithsonian Institution last month formally accepted some Gay political artifacts from a Los Angeles area activist as the beginnings of a Gay history collection to be stored for future exhibit.

Gay history recorded.

Vernon Mitchell, a World War II Navy veteran and member of the AIDS protest group ACT UP and the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, presented the materials to Edith Mayo, curator of the National Museum of American History's collections and exhibits involving women's and civil rights history.

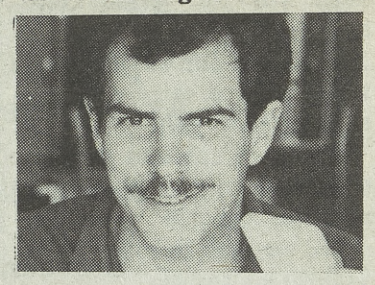
In a small private ceremony at the museum on October 24, Mitchell formally presented the items to Mayo and other museum officials. Included in the dozen pieces donated to the collection were a parade banner and some Gay political buttons, posters, and brochures.

According to a press release from Mitchell, the museum officials said they would keep the items in a "non-public area" and "hope to have a display on social protest" sometime in the future.

The Sentinel

Gay Boy Scout Wins Lawsuit

Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Sally Disco has ruled that the Boy Scouts are a business establishment and is therefore subject to California's Unruh Civil Rights Act which forbids discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. Unless the Mount Diablo Council can prove that homosexuality will interfere with its business purposes in a trial set from early 1991 they will be required to admit ex-Eagle Scout Timothy Curran as an adult troop leader. If Curran is admitted as a Troop leader he will be able to teach his scouts a great deal about



patience. He filed his original suit in this case in 1981.

Southern Voice

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HIV POSITIVE

Bush Names Man with AIDS - A Point of Light

by **Keith Clark**

As part of President Bush's "Daily Point of Light" program, recognizing Americans who have enriched their communities, the White House announced Saturday, December 1, that Elliot Schneck had been designated the 315th honoree in the program for his work in AIDS education and service.

According to White House press spokeswoman Tracey Taylor, Mr. Schneck, a 44 year-old openly gay man who was diagnosed in 1982, was selected for the special designation on World AIDS Day by the President to "draw even more attention to the epidemic and the power individuals - even individuals with the disease - have to contribute and fight against AIDS."

Mr. Schneck, a former employee of the United Way of the Bay Area, continues to do volunteer work with the agency's Speakers' Bureau. He also volunteers with the San Francisco AIDS Foundation's Hotline; the People with AIDS Switchboard; the New Conservatory Children's Theatre; the Center for Attitudinal Healing in Tiburon; and regularly addresses medical students at the University of California's Medical Center.

Mr. Schneck said, "It's a real honor, and really special. When I was diagnosed with AIDS, my feelings at that time were that my life was over. This reaffirms for me that my life only really began with my new priorities. I've had these wonderful opportunities that were there all the time, but until I got my priorities reorganized I guess I just didn't see it. It's a shame that it took this sledgehammer on my head to make me see it and to make me refocus my life. I feel like I'm living in a state of grace."

As an openly gay man, Mr. Schneck also he hoped his work, especially his work with kids, helped people see a more accurate and complete picture of gays and lesbians. "The fact that I'm gay, I hope, will help kids who are struggling with their identities and see that everything they hear about gays in a negative view is not the whole picture, that there's more. That gays are a very important part in the community ... that I'm not just an active member of the gay community, but I'm an active member of the community, period."

GIVING

continued from page 1

positive, yet remain asymptomatic.

Some organizations and individuals opted to donate money raised to other agencies providing services to people with HIV/AIDS. These included the River City Metropolitan Community Church's AIDS Benevolence Funds, the AIDS Action League, CARES, (Center for AIDS Research, Education and Services), and Hope House.

Hand to Hand volunteers donated nearly 40,000 hours.

The more than 300 Hand to Hand volunteers donated nearly 40,000 hours during 1990, committing not only their time but their lives to support people with AIDS. The cookies and special treats made by an anomyous volunteer baker has brought more than one smile to visitors at UC Davis Medical Center's ARD (AIDS and Related Disorders) Clinic. Was it you?

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towards a healthy

MIND & BODY

The Valentis Gym

Powerful Force in the Downtown Work-out Scene

by **Tim Whalen**

Valentis is a Latin word which, loosely translated, means "a strong and powerful force."

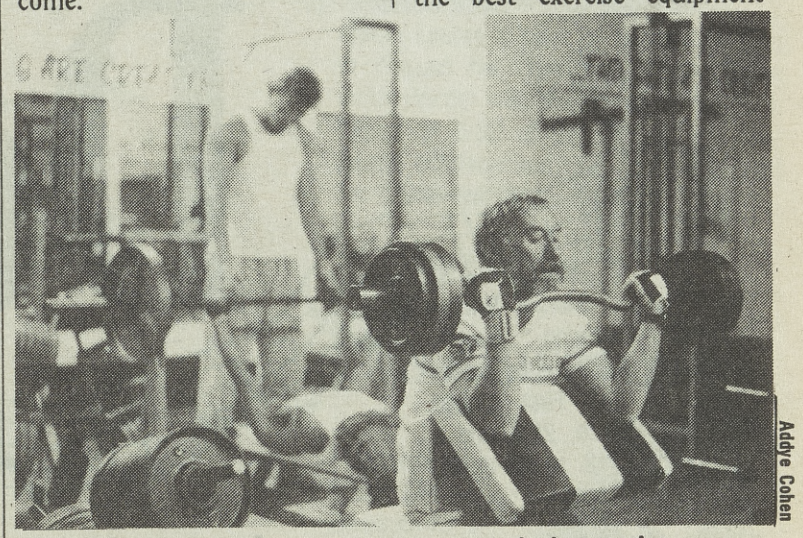
But while Valentis Gym, located at 921 Eleventh Street, is certainly a powerful force in the downtown work-out scene, there is much more to this unique gym.

What sets Valentis apart from other gyms is owner Liz White and Kimberly Miller's approach to health and exercise through merging physical and spiritual fitness. As Kimberly explains, "We're here to take care of our bodies, minds, and hearts. Unless you're happy on the inside, it doesn't matter how fit your body is. We try to find the balance between these two aspects of ourselves."

Valentis opened its doors on January 1, 1988, after Liz, Kimberly and their friends spent months cleaning, painting, and remodeling the gym, which occupies a corner of the historic Elks Building between I and J Streets. For Liz and Kimberly, Valentis is an extension of their lifestyles.

Liz has been involved in weight lifting for a number of years, and Kimberly has always been athletically inclined. Both women are interested in the spiritual influence on physical fitness. "I think people can tell we care about the gym," says Liz, "and we want everyone to feel welcome."

Liz and Kimberly's commitment to total fitness has resulted in a comfortable work-out environment where a variety of self-help information is available as well as some of the best exercise equipment found downtown. Valentis has two free-weight rooms, which include stationary bicycles, three racquetball courts, a small basketball area, a fifteen-yard indoor pool, two co-ed jacuzzis, and a women's and men's dry sauna. In addition, members enjoy a juice bar, a hair salon (Big Hair), and a resident masseur.



Addye Cohen

The upstairs weight room focuses on upper body exercise.

The positive, non-judgmental attitudes of Valentis employees toward members contributes to a friendly atmosphere at the gym. Liz and Kimberly have tried to create an environment where both gay and straight members can work out side by side, and hopefully learn from ont another. "We've gotten a lot of support from the gay community," Kimberly explains, "but we want everyone to feel welcome here."

Valentis is open from 6am to 9pm, Monday through Friday, 9am to 5pm on Satur-

continued on page 12

Help Through the Holiday Blues

by **Lynn McNeal D.C.**

The holidays represent a difficult time for many of us. The statistics rise at this time of year on suicides, depression, and other crises.

The stress of the holidays effects so many people, and often, like clock-work when the Christmas ads begin, it is a good time to assess if you could use a little help.

The causes of the "Holiday Syndrome" are many. Certainly, the financial pressure to express you care through spending is there. There is the gathering of families -- sometimes obligatory -- and the pressure to meet all those needs. Many people have lost someone to illness or separation, and the holidays can accentuate feelings of loss. For people in recovery from substance or emotional abuse, this can be a most difficult time.

Listed below are some local support groups that may be of help to you during the holidays.

Holiday Stress Management Group, Facilitator: Bea Betzner, M.A., 344-1320
Nov 29 - Dec 20 (4 meetings, Thursdays 6p.m.-7:30 p.m.)
$25 per group session

Alcoholics Anonymous
North Hall, 34th & Broadway
Metropolitan Community Church Building, 8 p.m., 7 days per week

Narcotics Anonymous
Lambda Center, 1931 L Street
442-0185, 8 p.m. Fridays

Overeaters Anonymous
Sutter Memorial, 30th and L
2nd Floor conference room, 8 p.m. Wednesdays.

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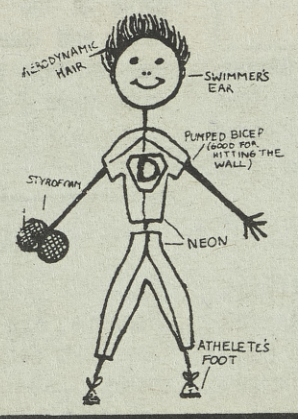

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the daily PLAN-IT

December

15 saturday

Men's Chorus Annual Winter Concert Featuring special guests the Golden Gate Men's Chorus at the First United Methodist church, 21st and J Sts. 8 p.m. $12. at the door.

Toys for Tots Party hosted by LaKish and Larry at the Townhouse, 10 p.m.. Bring a toy and enjoy the show and 50/50 raffle for charity. Emperor XVI Paul and Empress XVI Stacey emcees.

Lioness Books' First Annual Holiday Party: Femertainment. 10am-6pm. Features local musicians, poets, writers, and other entertainers. Food! Beverages! No cover for the event, but includes a fundraising for the Performing Animal Welfare Society (PAWS). 2224 J Street. call 442-4657.

Gay Comedy Night at Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint (3583 16th St, S.F.) with emcee Mario Mondelli and comics Karen Williams, Bushman and Kittell, and Suzy Berger. 10pm. $8.

16 sunday

Winter Concert by the Men's Chorus. Featuring special guests the Golden Gate Men's Chorus at the First United Methodist church, 21st and J Sts. 8 p.m. $12. at the door.

Disney Country Christmas Party at Faces. 2000 K St. All are welcome to attend this freee formal party. The lavish holiday buffet begins at 7 p.m. and the party continues late into the evening. For additional information call 448-7798.

Sacramento Valley Concert Choir at the Crocker Art Museum. Features the Silver Swan Singers, Sac Hi Jazz-n-Pizazz, holiday readings by Victoria Clark. 1-5pm. Free with Museum admission.

SUNDAYS

ACT-UP Sacramento meets at 7 p.m. Local activist group dedicated to acting up, fighting back and fighting AIDS. For more information call (916) 552-1996.

17 monday

Gay Comedy Open Mike at Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint (3583 16th St, S.F.) with emcee Karen Williams. 8:30pm. $4. Performer sign-up by phone by 7:30pm.

S.F. 49ers v L.A. Rams, Anaheim Stadium. Watch the game at the Buff, 1831 S Street and take advantage of the 49c shots with every 49er touch down. 6 p.m.

MONDAYS

Women's Rap Group at the Lambda Community Center, 1931 L Street, Sacramento. 7 - 9 p.m. For additional information call 442-0185 or Laura at 381-5569.

18 tuesday

Bobette and Ernie Brown's Christmas Party at the Mercantile Saloon. Call 447-0792 for more details.

PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) will meet at 7:30 p.m., at the Christian Education Building, St. Mark's Unite Methodist, 2391 St. Marks Way (corner of Lusk). The program will be a rap session with Well Green, M.D., as facilitator. Call 444-9510 for more information.

TUESDAYS

"Being Gay Today", 10pm on Sacramento Cable 63, through January 15. One hour of lesbian and gay programs from around the country and beyond.

WEDNESDAYS

Men's Night Out at Joseph's Town & Country, 2062 Auburn Blvd.

Women's Night at Faces, 2000 K Street.

20 thursday

Final Toys for Tots Party with LaKish and Larry at the Mercantile Saloon 1930 L Street, 8 p.m.

THURSDAYS

"Being Gay Today" repeat broadcasts, through January 17. (See Tuesdays.)

Gay and Lesbian Alliance of Sacramento, a student group at CSUS meets. For more information call (916) 441-7305.

21 friday

How to Survive the Holidays - a Special Presentation to People from Dysfunctional Families, will be presented at the Church of Enthusiasm and Joy at 7pm. Registration by phone is required ($10 donation suggested for the workshop). Call 456--5685 or 489-7503 for more info.

Winter officially begins.

January

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

FRIDAYS

Cafe' Lambda, at the Lambda Community Center, 1931 L Street. An alternative social spot for the gay and lesbian community. 8 p.m. - midnight.

1 tuesday

5 saturday

Acting 100, a series of three workshops for those new to the stage. Instructed by John Mitchell. Lambda Community Center, 1931 L Street. 2 - 4 p.m., January 5, 12, 19.

6 sunday

The Phantom of the Opera. Sacramento Community Theatre. BASS/TM tickets.

7 monday

Women's Rap Group at the Lambda Community Center, 1931 L St. 7 - 9 p.m. - Secret Question Rap.

10 thursday

GLADD/Sacramento meeting at 6:30pm at the Commons, corner of 17th and P. For more information, call Judy Ludwick at 451-0919.

11 friday

Maureen Gaynor and John Mitchell comedians perform at Cafe Lambda - Lambda Community Center, 1931 L Street. 442-0185 for more information.

14 monday

Women's Rap Group and Potluck at the Lambda Community Center 1931 L Street, 7 p.m. (Please bring a dish to share.)

16 wednesday

Quit Smoking with a Freedom From Smoking clinic at the Lambda Community Center, 1931 L Street, 7 p.m., Marsha Oritt facilitating.

18 friday

Guitarist/Singer Mary Rose to perform at Cafe Lambda - Lambda Community Center, 1931 L Street. 442-0185 for more information.

22 saturday

The Sunshine Christmas Show. Hosted by Emperor I of Vancouver "Rags", Empress XV La Kish, and John Dear. 50/50 raffle. Benefits to the Godfather Fund. The Western, 20th & K, 8pm.

Lady Garnett's last show this year. Will Garnett's "Do-Cats" ever be the same? Seating for the show starts at 8pm at Joseph's Town and Country, 2062 Auburn Blvd. The show starts at 9pm. You can also have your picture taken with Santa Claus -- only $5 -- for charity.

23 sunday

Berkeley Opera presents a family performance of Hansel and Gretel at the Julia Morgan Theater, Berkeley. 4pm (adults $13, children $9).

24 monday

Christmas Ham Dinner at Joseph's Town & Country. 3pm-7pm; only $5. By reservation only.

25 tuesday

29 tuesday

JoAnn Loulan is back by popular demand to discuss her new book "The Lesbian Erotic Dance" with the women of SACWN. Begins at 6:30 at the Holiday Inn Northeast, Madison and I-80. $12 - $20.00 For tickets call Linda 486-8985.

30 wednesday

Les Misérables

Presented by Music Circus. Sacramento Community Center. Tickets Available at all BASS outlets.

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ACTING 100 - a series of three workshops for the new or almost new to the stage. A first step to overcome shyness in front of crowds! Instructed by John Mitchell, Lambda Players resident director. **January 5, 12, 19 from 2-4pm**

TAX PLANNING 123 - A 2 hour, fast-paced guide to help you get ready for April15! Lead by Marsha Oritt, MLO Financial Services. **January 29 at 7pm**

SIGN UP TODAY !

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LOCATED AT 1931 L ST

Plan-It In Advance

To list your events in the Daily Plan-it, send a brief description of the event along with any graphic images you may have before the 5th of each month to: **the latest ISSUE**, P.O. Box 160584, Sacramento, CA 95816.

Easy New Year's Resolutions for Underachievers.

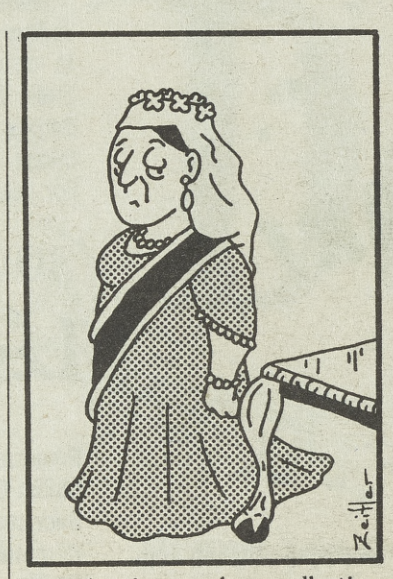
by **Stacy Selmants**

Will you learn, already? Quit trying every year to emulate a rising, mystical phoenix beginning anew from a pile of smoky ashes. Instead, accept reality and recognize yourself as you are: a sea gull-- uncomplicated, soaring, pretty much just looking for the next meal and a good beach.

THE HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

The annual process of composing, disobeying and then abandoning resolutions was invented by Queen Victoria. And we know how much fun SHE was.

The New Year's Resolution requirement was an excuse to make the populace suffer pangs of guilt, in order to control their unruly natures. (It is no coincidence that the custom of resolution making and breaking falls in the month before Lent.) Historically, by the time Lent rolled around, the peasants were



experiencing such a collective loss of self-esteem that production fell dramatically. The lords of the Industrial Revolution were brought to their knees, and England, as we knew it, began to crumble. The downfall of a nation-- all because of resolutions.

So, if you must contribute to yet another downfall of an industrial nation, do it slowly. In other words, make resolutions that you can, unequivocally, keep. You know, the easy ones.

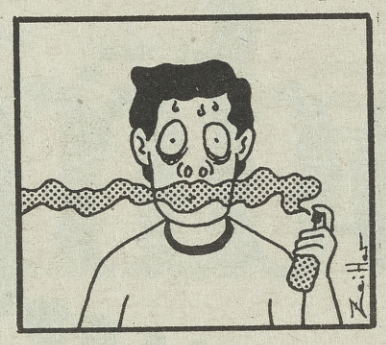
RESOLUTIONS FOR UNDERACHIEVERS

1) Offer to give up things you barely know exist. Artichoke hearts is a good example, provided you are not currently in the employ of a establishment which serves California Cuisine.

Promising to abandon the practice of biting the head off baby birds is another sure fire resolution for underachievers. No fuss, no muss--unless you are a Ted Nugent/Ozzie Osborne aficionado.

2) Relinquish all memberships in Milli Vanilli fan clubs, as well as give away any MV merchandise-- yes, even that cunning lunchbox. You'll miss those fashion tips on dreadlocks maintenance in the newsletter, but the matted look has, well, peaked.

3) Vow to be more selective in choosing a personal fragrance. What may smell butch in the bottle can take on the the dubious charms of a randy barnyard when the chemical interaction between the fragrance and male hormones emitted while dancing to industrial/rap music comes into play. Multiply this chemical explosion by the dozens and you can see why abandoning the practice of bathing in the new male cologne,



"Throb", might just be your easy new resolution, and can help us save the ozone layer, too.

4) Eliminate any urge to adopt battle fatigue as your new fashion "look." While fashion trends may come and go, war is eternal. And we're paying lots of good tax dollars to fight over oil rights to somebody else's sandbox, so let's not complicate matters any further by making this "armed enforcement of economic sanctions" fashionable. Be resolute. Stick to those 501's, dear.

5) When in the throes of a new winter romance, think twice before calling Bekins. While we know how lesbians are prone to cohabit almost instantly ("Instant Partnership--Just Add Water!") take a deep breath, and slow down. Be reasonable. If you haven't discovered her flaws, (such as she is subject to abnormal hormonal mood swings or that she consistently votes Republican) as well as her virtues, then it's too soon. At least know her last name before rearranging the furniture.

In conclusion, don't try to be an overachiever. Ridiculous resolutions only breed guilt. Self-improvement is easy. Self-acceptance is harder. Try it; you'll sleep better at night.

VALENTIS

continued from page 9

days, and 10am to 4pm on Sundays. Membership dues are a reasonable $33 per month, and the initiation fee is $175. However, Valentis is offering a membership special from January 7-11, during which the initiation fee will be waived.

Part of Valentis' commitment to spiritual fitness includes an "affirmation board" located at the front desk where a different affirmation is recorded daily. "Experience is determined by yourself --not the circumstances of your life", read the board recently.

If you want a new experience in physical fitness in your life, Valentis may be just what you're looking for.

DEADLINES

The editorial deadline for our next issue is January 1st. Camera-ready advertising materials are due by January 5th.

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Bob Hall, Facilitator

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the latest ENTERTAINMENT

Sacramento Prepare for Les Miserables

by **Winston Ingman**

When I first heard Victor Hugo's epic novel was being adapted to a musical, I had my misgivings. Traditionally, subjects interpreted in that art form tend to be romantic intrigues, comedies of manners or combinations of both with elaborate choreography to punctuate the plot.

Les Miserables is among other things a vivid chronicle of man's inhumanity to man (and woman). To use the medium of musical theater to evoke this blighted period in human history was an artistic gamble on the part of the original creators. A few statistics illustrate just how successful the gamble was. When Les Miserables opened on Broadway, it had advance ticket sales of $11 million -- the most in U.S. theater history, nearly double the $6.2 million record set by *Cats* in 1982.

The novel's scale is so vast and complex (1200 pages) that a perfectly accurate adaptation would be impossible if for no other reason than the restrictions of time. However, this production triumphs magnificently in capturing the essence of the novel, magically weaving and revealing the themes of good versus evil, man's search for redemption, and ultimately the ability of the human spirit to prevail.

Briefly, the story traces the life of Jean Valjean, a peasant who steals a loaf of bread to feed his sister's starving child, and thereby becomes a criminal. The detective Javert's relentless pursuit of Valjean, the latter's escape through the sewers of Paris, and the dramatic depiction of the Battle of Waterloo all remain unforgettable high points of fiction.

The sets, sound effects, and costumes were all spectacular. But clearly, the consummate use of lighting made one of the most significant contributions to this truly thrilling theater experience. A flooding of intense bright white from high in the sky glorified each loss of human life, when in this time there seemed to be no glory in life, just misery. The sewers of Paris came to life through the use of fogged lighting shown through grated gels, and the lighting of the Seine as a whirlpool was overwhelming to the senses.

The voices were all exceptional but Richard Poole as Jean Valjean was extraordinary. The falsetto notes in "Bring Him Home" exhibited an effortless purity and announced a major talent.

The set was as appropriately aesthetic for the period as it was functional for the scene changes. The idea of a revolving turntable is not new to theater but Les Miserable exhibits the most effective use of one yet. The turntable did not just rotate from one scene to another but was used to help the actors change scenes and places when walking from village to village. Very minimal though the scenery was, in not only contributed to good theater, but made good fiscal sense as well.

The staging was clearly extremely well planned. No one was just "in the wings" waiting. Not only was each performer involved with each scene, but each also placed the props as they entered and exited.

The music is so breathtakingly evocative that mere words fail to describe what is at heart a spiritual experience. Though each piece has something to recommend it, two pieces had special appeal. "Bring Him Home," hauntingly sung by Richard Poole is a plaintive plea that will deeply touch anyone who has ever turned hands and eyes to heaven to ask for the return of a loved one. "Empty Chairs at Empty Tables," sung by John Ruess is another outstanding number. Sung as he sits alone huddled beneath a shawl, surrounded by chairs and tables now vacated by departed companions, the song speaks to us of the companions we have lost to AIDS.

> ...magically weaving and revealing the themes of good versus evil

And therein lies the beauty of this masterpiece. The timeless themes dealt with lend this classic a topicality that transcends history. Whether is it the Battle of Waterloo, the Persian Gulf Crisis, or the battle against AIDS, one is reminded of the French expression: La plus ca change, la plus la reste la meme - the more things change, the more they stay the same.

Les Miserables comes to Sacramento January 30 through February 10. Call Music Circus box office for ticket information.

Special thanks to Joel K. Ferreira, one of the producers of the Lambda Players.

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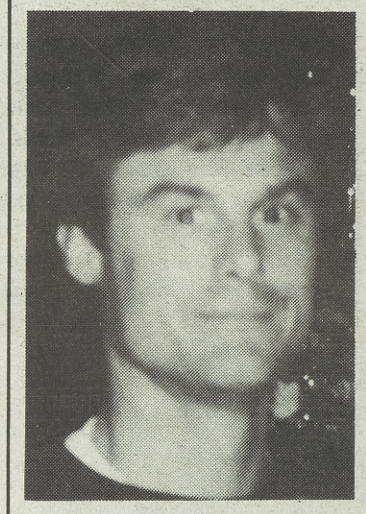
street ? WHYS

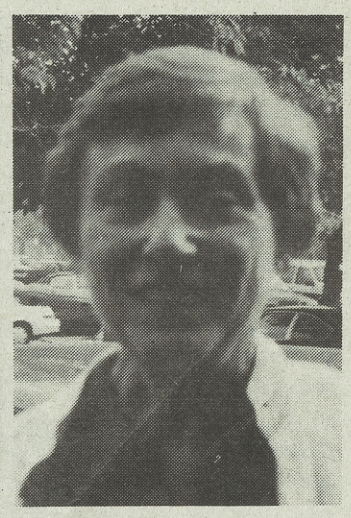
by **Tom Romanotto**

Do you like the holidays?



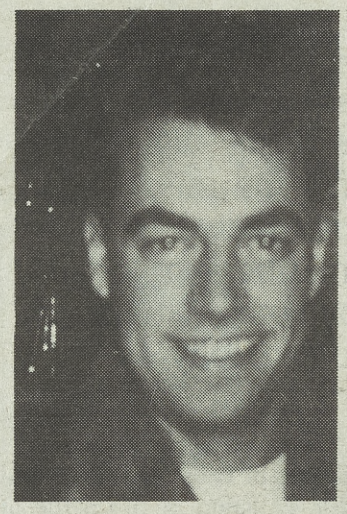
Steven Blessing,
Sacramento

"I like the giving part; I like the festivities; I love the singing and caroling. I have some bad memories growing up as a child. I don't have any family here, so that's a little sad, but I have lots of friends, so for the most part, it's OK."



Martha Hird,
Sacramento

"I think the holidays are fine and I think they're fun, but I think with all the commercialism, it goes on too long. The holidays ought to be run like British elections -- one week of campaigning, then celebrate and get it over with!"

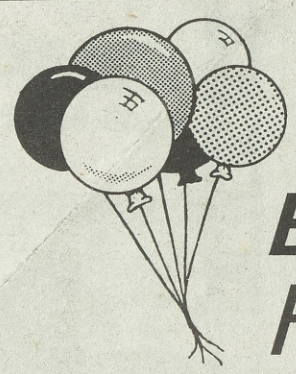


Dave Hall,
Sacramento

"I love the holidays! I love to go shopping and visiting! I love seeing people on the holidays! I love to send cards! I love the decorations! I hate to work, though; it's hard to work during the holidays."

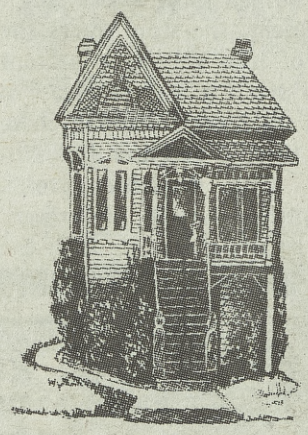
Sue Charles,
Sacramento

"I love the holidays! I love the shopping 'cause I love to spend money. I like trying to find gifts for people, just the right stuff, that they'll like. I like the good feeling I get from giving to other people."



Bobbette,
Happy 60th Birthday!!

We love you,
Emperor XVI Paul
Empress XVI Stacey



Emperor XVI Paul
Empress XV La Kish
Ernie *Dennis*
Big Rod *Robert*
Jackson *Timmy*
Scotty *Randy*

Hundreds Turn Out to See Leather Men Strut

by **P.J. Dunker**

Sacramento can add another notch to its leather belt. At the recent Mr. Leather Sacramento 1991 Contest, (November 17), over four hundred people gathered at Joseph's Town and Country to witness the event.

The contest was without a doubt the most successful leather event Sacramento has ever hosted. Not only was the attendance outstanding, but the event flowed smoothly, and was well organized. Six hundred dollars was donated from the proceeds of the contest to benefit the AIDS Action League. The only complaint seemed to stem from the lack of space to accommodate everyone adequately.

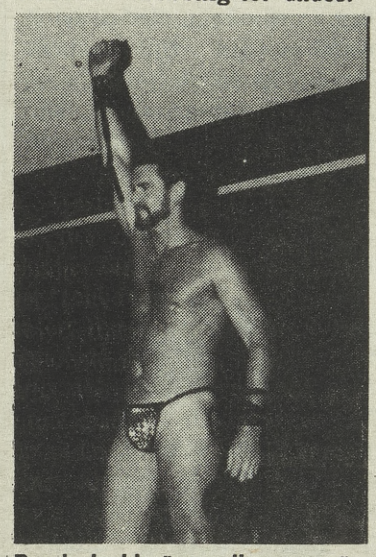
Congratulations to both producers, Jolanne Tierney and Philip Waggoner, as well as to the Sacramento Leather Association, and, of course, all of the contestants.

Bill Gooch, Tom Sachs, Chuk Lowry, George Fox, & Randy Gray.

Randy Gray emerged victorious and is now Mr. Leather Sacramento 1991. Bill Gooch was the first runner-up, with George Fox filling the second runner-up position, but neither of the other two contestants, Chuk Lowry and Thomas Sachs, were left very far behind. In fact, in a conversation with Randy Gray after the contest, he stated, " . . . each contestant could have done an equally good job representing the community."

The new Mr. Leather Sacramento wants to help leather men and women become more visible and, in turn, more approachable within the gay and lesbian community of Sacramento. . If he does as he's promising, Randy will be easy to find. One of the ideas he offered as an example of how to unite gay and lesbian Sacramentans, was to throw an all faction fundraising party, action packed with such fun, wild and crazy competitions as "bobbing for dildos."

. . . Randy will be easy . . .

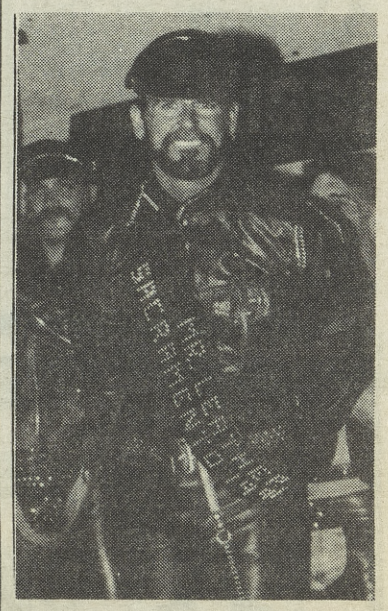


Randy in his "revealing wear."

On a more serious note, Randy plans to establish a self-defense program available for all gays and lesbians. The program would be directed as an individual defense program, teaching people the best ways to thwart attack based on each persons own size, sex, and personality. This is an especially significant idea to try to implement when gay bashings, rapes, and related hate crimes are on the increase.

Randy also intends to act as an advocate of freedom of speech. He plans to be a spokesperson for the "inalienable rights" of freedom of speech and expression. Rights he feels are in jeopardy with people like Jesse Helms winning elections.

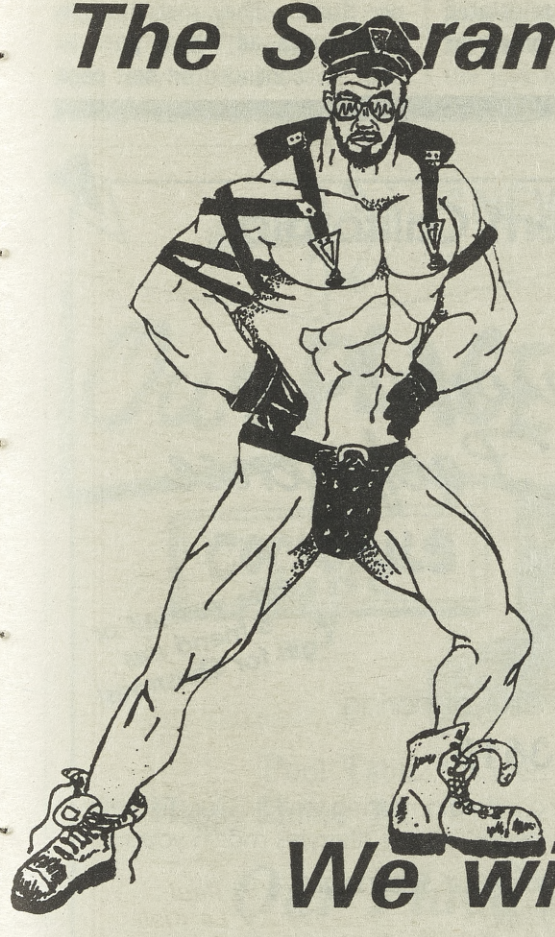
Randy will be representing Sacramento in Chicago at the International Mr. Leather contest in 1991. In the mean time he is doing everything he can to make Sacramento very proud of him, including doing some very "hard" time at the gym.



Mr. Leather Sacramento 1991.

The Sacramento Leather Association

SLA



Would like to thank the Sacramento gay community, and especially the latest ISSUE for the dedicated support of SLA fundraisers, events and parties since we began 18 months ago.

We wish you all Happy Holidays and a Fantasy Fulfilled New Year!

RUMOR HAS IT

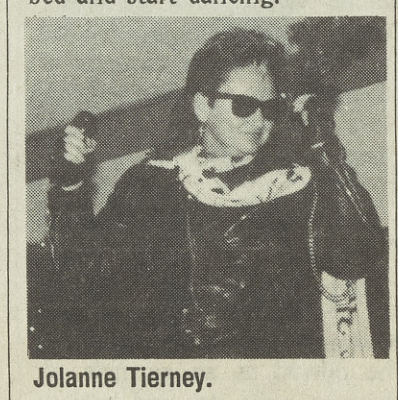
by **Dan Palomino**

Seasons Greetings to our many loyal readers from all of us at the Latest Issue!

And of course, my holiday best to all of you card-carrying members of the Louella Parsons Fan Club. A fickle set a groupies make up this club, I might add. How fickle, you ask? Well, sometimes I'm not sure if I am leading the parade or if I'm simply being chased by a mob.

Anyway, I'm hoping the season finds our stockings, or whatever else we choose, stuffed with goodies, and our hearts filled with simple happiness. The **Fairy Godfather Fund** had this in mind when they put on a show December 7 called **Stocking Stuffers** which raised money to stuff some stockings full of good things for the PWA's. This talented troup of festive fund-raisers will be putting on a show on the AIDS ward of **UC Davis Med Center** on December 22. If **Jolanne Tierney** has anything to do with it, the patients will get out of bed and start dancing.

Performing for PWA's.



Jolanne Tierney.

While speaking about having a good time **Mike Tentis** house warming bash was hopping! But while last years house party was a passion pit of pleasure the only thing steaming at 1 a.m. was his carpet cleaner. Rumor has it he has found a new love. Good luck.

And getting back to the mob scene, the shopping/feeding frenzy is enough to drive one to therapy the other 364 days of the year. I'll just die if I see another sweatshirt with "I want lots of presents and I want them now!" emblazoned across the fronts of suburban hausfraus with the kids in tow. Speaking of suburbia, my company sent me on assignment to Pittsburg, California, for a few weeks recently. The word "assignment" quickly changed to "exile" once I saw where they had intended me to stay. Anyway, I thought I was stranded in a world of Philistines until I noticed someone had written on a bathroom wall, "God is Dead - Nietzche," whereupon someone else had written underneath, "Nietzche is Dead -- God . . . and it's been proven." Those rednecks do have a sense of humor! And in case your wondering why I was reading the bathroom wall, its none of your business!

Hurrahs are in store for **Perry Watkins** who recently won the right to be reinstated in the army after a nine-year battle.

For all those four hundred thousand troops in the Gulf, has any effort been mobilized to send them care packages with condoms inside? Isn't it natural to assume that after months of doing nothing in the desert surrounded by thousands of 18-30 year olds, one's hormones just go beserk! Oops, I forgot, the military doesn't issue hormones. I tell ya, to those boys, Maria Muldaur's 70's hit song "Midnight at the Oasis, Take your camel to bed" is starting to take on a literal meaning and humping no longer means riding bareback on dromedaries.

Someone who did something about those raging hormones and got married was

♥ **Stacy and Suzie.**

the latest ISSUE's **Stacy Selmants** who is celebrating six months of bliss with her partner **Suzie.** They met through a personals ad which goes to

continued on next page

2nd Annual Community

Christmas Party

To Benefit Hope House

Sunday, Dec. 23rd
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Featuring
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New Years Eve
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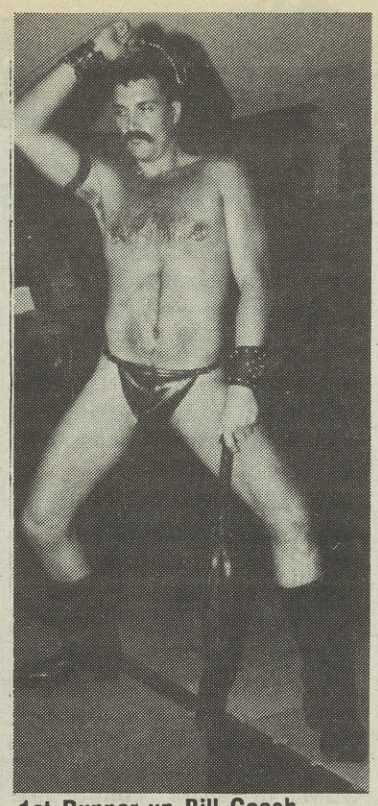
prove that advertising works!

In other staff news, **Kate Moore** probably thought that new writer **Winston Ingman** really got around town, which may be the reason he's now involved in circulating the paper to various establishments. Check out his fascinating review of "Les Miserables" elsewhere in this issue. In his first review, which appeared in last month's issue, **Winston** was miffed because a quote he used, "The Immortal Hounds of Eros" from writer Mary Renault, had been typo'd, which made it lose its punch. Lets hope the "immortal hounds of errors" didn't chomp on the proofreader this time.

Santa (Rob Thorbin).

The next time **Santa** approaches you at a bar or community get-together, you can bet it's **Rob Thorbin**, who's been playing Santa and dispensing candy canes and condoms for 11 seasons! Of note was his daily change of costumes during the Halloween season where he ran the gamut from Papa Smurf to the marquis de Sade. And now it's Santa. Can this be the sign of a man in the middle of an identity crisis? Anyway, **Rob**, thank you for your selfless giving each season!

Another selfless contributor is **Steven Koppes**, who is starting another support group for HIV positive people. Community activist and all-around rabblerouser **Brian Polejes** filled me in on the latest Kick-ROTC-Off-Campus campaign at the AIDS fundraiser at elegant **Michael Madden** and party girl **Steve Crow's** maison on December 8. Stay tuned for the fate of CSUS policy toward the ROTC program in my next column. By the way, the SAF-sponsored fundraiser was a smashing social and financial success and cleared over two grand! Special thanks to **New Helvetia Roasters and Bakers** and **Ettore's European Bakery** for their contribution to make this an outstanding event. At the party, I was cornered by the indefatigable **Marghe Covino** who almost threatened to strangle me with a sequin-studded rope over my comments in my Nov. column. I wrote of her fashionable sequined threads at the Lambda Awards Dinner. Will **Marghe** be the one to initiate me into the joys of bondage?



1st Runner-up Bill Gooch.

Well, some men who appear to have already been initiated into this realm of enjoyment are the handsome hunks that were contestants at the **Mr. Sacramento Leather Contest.** From what I hear **Tom Sachs, Chuk Lowry, George Fox and Bill Gooch** gave it their best but **Randy Gray** beat them. Oh, I mean... **Randy Gray** is the new **Mr. Sacramento Leather.** I get so exicited, lets just move on to something else.

Checking in with the lovely **Rosanna Herber** at **Mike Thompson's** post-election fundraiser, I was thrilled to learn **SACWN** is actively exploring ways to reflect the views of its members since a recent blow-up resulted in 6 key women taking a hike. In its bid to become a more dynamic force within our community **SACWN** has gone as far as hiring a consultant to help them achieve their goals. At their recent holiday event, Special Guest **Mayor Anne Rudin** for the first time announced her decision to run for another term as mayor. And this is the first time in Sacramento that you've seen this hot news-scoop in print!

Mike Thompson.

Congrats to **Rosanna** and her partner **Gail Shamberg** on six months of bliss, or as she confessed, "knowing each other" in the biblical sense. Not to be outdone, **Teri Hopper and Chris Lane** just celebrated another yearly anniversary on December 3. And Since **Teri's** B-Day is on the 17th, we can rest assured she's going to need a cruise to Mexico to recover from all the excitement of one month -- are you reading this, **Patrick Allen?**

On a final note, Happy holidays to Sacramento Transplant **Caren Thompson** who moved to Seattle in search of fresh hunting grounds. And that's too bad, because my friend and aspiring ice skater **Brenda Robinson** is one hot act and is now officially available. Well, who knows what Santa will bring this Christmas? I wish you the best holiday season filled with the laughter of old and new friends, and a prosperous new year.

Love Danny

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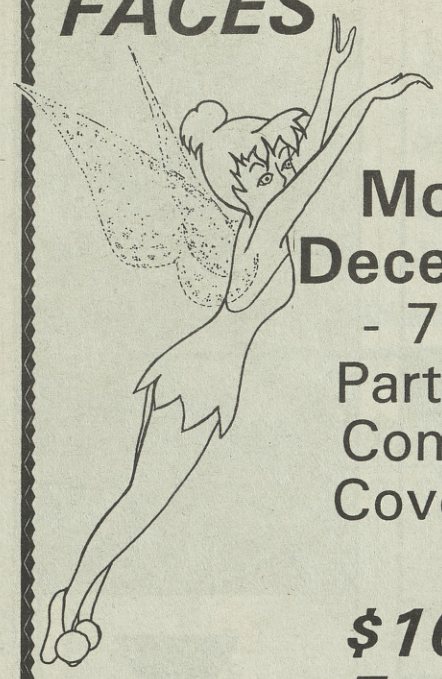

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Miwok Room, Student Union CSU, Sacramento. Support group dealing with "Comming Out" as a life long process

WOMEN'S RAP GROUP
Mondays 7-9pm at the Center
A social support group for lesbian women with weekly topics and a monthly potluck

STOP SMOKING CLINICS
Beginning Jan 16 at 7pm and Jan 19 at 4:30pm. 7 week program to learn to control your need to smoke.

BEING ALIVE LIVING ROOM
Thursdays 2-5 at the Center
a drop-in social time for PWA or HIV + persons. Games, movies, and snacks.

YOUTH RAP GROUP
Fridays 5:45 at the Center
Social-support group for gay, lesbian, or bisexual youth under 21.

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THE LAMBDA CENTER WANTS YOU INVOLVED!
VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED IN MANY DIFFERENT AREAS.
TRAININGS WILL BE HELD JAN 12 FROM 10AM-1PM, AND JAN 14 FROM 6:30-8:30
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Fridays 8pm-Midnite
A coffeehouse in the heart of
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Cloud Nine opens Feb 9

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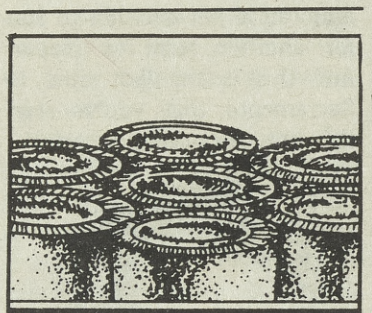

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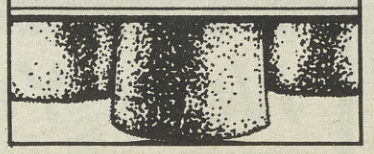
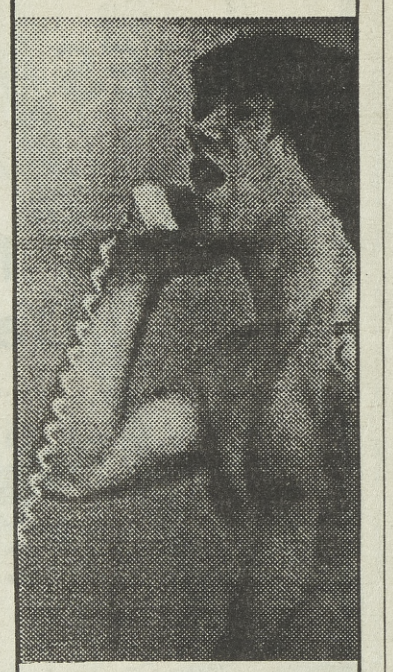


GET ON...



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Gay and Lesbian hate crimes are increasing...we need volunteers with crisis hotline experience. Must be avail. to be trained for new ANTI-VIOLENCE HOTLINE...Call Shannon at Lambda Center 442-0185.

ROOMMATES

EAST SAC HOME
4 bedroom, 2 bath, East Sacramento, $1,200 per month. 457-3849.

SHARE SECLUDED HOME
GWM couple seeking GWM or GBM to share comfortable secluded home. Private room $350 per month. Must be responsible, open, and mature. No fats or fems. 863-0179.

NEAR SAC STATE
Small room in nice house $200 per month. 386-2504 after 7:00 P.M.

McKINLEY PARK
GWF looking for housemate near McKinley Park. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, washer/dryer, garage for storage, large yard. $300 per month + half utilities. 456-4325.

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Models, Escorts, Dancers, Bodyworkers, Mistress/Master. Expose yourself to more business! List your service on the fun line! 1-900-FUN-1990. .95 minute.

HANDY RANDY'S
Handyman service, minor home repairs, yard work, landscaping, vacation pet and home care, light hauling, errands, etc...? Call Randy, 456-1610.

WOMEN

TENDING THE GARDEN
Support groups for women, traditional to metaphysical; 2 groups beginning: Monday 6:30-9:00 P.M. Jan 14 to Mar 18 and Thursday 10:00 A.M. - Noon Jan 10 to Mar 14, $200 per 10 week series limited to 8 per group. Facilitators are Elizabeth Grimoldi LCSW and Teresa Phillips MFCC. 441-1866.

LET'S SKI!
Hard to find someone to ski with? Let's network and enjoy other women who have a passion for the steep and deep. Interested parties 1-587-3803.

MEN

OVER 55?
Masculine W/M, 40, tall, trim, warm affectionate, stable, romantic, non-smoker, non-promiscuous, health (HIV-), seeks understanding, unattached, and self-respecting gentleman over 55 for companionship and passionate monogamous relationship. Would relocate. All detailed letters with photo (returned) answered. Occupant, Box 591, 208 East 51st St., New York, NY 10022.

SEEKS ROMANTIC
Low-mileage, Single owner heart attached to GWM pagan 25 year old, brown eyes, brown hair, 5'11" looking for hopeless romantic to share those "special moments" with. 444-8798.

THIRD MAN
GWM couple seeking GWM or GBM who enjoys getting together for fun times. Interested in skiing, horseback riding, videos, biking. Not fats or fems. 863-0179.

MASSAGE

MASSAGE FOR MEN
Enjoy a revitalizing full body massage by Alan 457-5960 (Dntn).

ACTIVE MAN'S MASSAGE
Athletes, sore muscles, back pain, stress release, soothing, sensual massage. Call Ray - 455-4314. 10 a.m. to 10 p.m.

TWO ON ONE
Josh and Steve are now accepting new clients for the ultimate two on one massage experience. Josh: 21, tall, lean, blue/-blonde, good looking all American boy. Steve: tall, muscular, brown/brown, handsome. Call for appt., 929-9466.

MASSAGE FOR MEN
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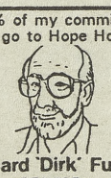
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MARCH

continued from page 5

inary and later this year some San Francisco activists will be meeting informally to begin making more concrete proposals to send out to groups all over the country asking for their input and support.

Siegel said, "The way I have envisioned it is that we do it in 1992; we do it in the Spring because in the fall it's too late to influence Congress; we get some [Congressional] hearings going; that we get a million people to Washington; that we assure that people set up gay/lesbian lobbies in every state; that we have events in every state capital that October. My idea is not just to get people there to feel good, but to influence Congress, to make sure that we get 10 or 20 new co-sponsors for the gay/lesbian rights bills, and to set an infrastructure of gay and lesbian lobbies in every state."

"I feel like this is a do-able thing," Siegel said. "With a half-million people the last time, we can clearly get a million. Most people who went say it was the best thing in their life."

Cleve Jones, founder of the Names Project, said that he himself has not been involved in discussions about a possible national march, but that David Lemos, the executive director of the Names Project, "had conversations with the Human Rights Campaign Fund and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force to discuss it a national march] in very general terms."

Tim McFeeley of the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) told the latest ISSUE, "It's on our agenda to discuss. I recently noticed that [Minneapolis City Councilman] Brian Coyle brought it up at the [Gay and Lesbian] Elected Officials conference in Boston two weeks ago as well."

McFeeley said HRCF had not received any concrete proposal concerning a national march yet but added, "But whatever it is we'll want to participate and be helpful. If there is a consensus to have a march on Washington in 1992 we certainly want to participate. And it's probably a good time to do it. I think it makes sense and fits in with what we do generally and we would want to be supportive."

MADONNA

continued from page 1

(except Madonna, of course) involved in a variety of activities: kissing, cuddling, humping. Perhaps the single "nastiest" image is of Madonna's boyfriend rubbing his face against her legs, crotch, and breasts.

> "People would rather confront their own death than their sexuality"

Well, I don't know how other viewers reacted to the video but, frankly, I was disappointed. When I heard that it was too wild for MTV I expected explicit, X rated sex -- not artsy, black and white suggestions of sex. And the flap about homosexuality was way

overblown. The first few times I watched the video (okay, okay, I did watch it more than once) I couldn't even tell who was male and who was female.

When interviewed on "Nightline" Madonna's response to the flap over her new video was to point out that "Justify My Love" was intended to be "a celebration of sex; and that's okay." All of middle class America, however, does not think it's okay. Although sex is "subtly" used to sell everything from mouthwash to cars, many of us are uncomfortable with outright sexual images.

Madonna also pointed out that many of those who object to the sexual content of her video think nothing of watching movies or television shows with explicitly violent scenes. She called upon the viewers to reconsider their values of sex as being more offensive than violence.

On another level, the androgynous nature of the performers in the video seems to indicate that gender need not be a decisive factor in sexual interaction -- a very frightening thought to those strident prudes who object to the video. Anything that raises questions we would rather not face is best avoided, after all, banned if possible. For, as Madonna herself said, "People would rather confront their own death than their sexuality."

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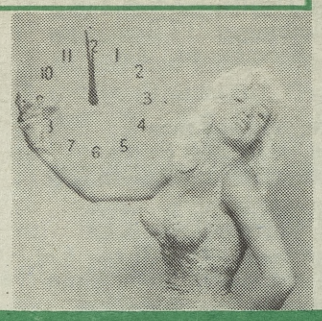

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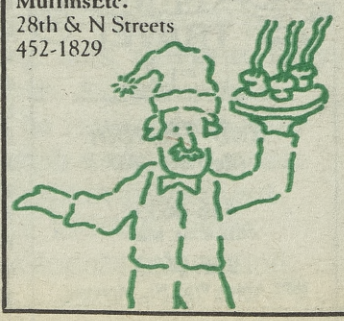
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